NSC BRIEFING                                                18 July 1956

## HINTS OF HARDENING SOVIET LINE

I.  Few straws in wind suggest USSR may respond to its difficulties with
    the "great debate" over de-Stalinization by adopting a harder line--
    particularly a more strongly anti-US tone.

    A.  Pravda (16 July) blamed Communist troubles on US: "US statesmen
        who pretend to leadership of the whole of the capitalist world
        have seized on the past mistakes and shortcomings in connection
        with Stalin's cult in the USSR...to undermine the confidence
        of the working people in the first Socialist state in the world,
        the Soviet Union, and to introduce dissension and confusion
        within the ranks of the world's Communist and worker's movement."

    B.  Same Pravda issue repeated 30 June Soviet Central Committee
        charge that US caused Poznan riots.

    C.  Same Pravda warns Communists everywhere not to "forget the
        great duty of international proletarian solidarity" and
        pointedly reminds them that "the interest of correctly appreciated
        national pride of the great Russians coincides with the
        Socialist interests of the great Russians and all other
        proletarians."

    D.  Earlier (6 July) Pravda stressed USSR would have nottruck with
        multi-party system but would rely on Communist party "forged
        by conscious discipline and strengthened by the unity and
        closeness of its ranks."

    E.  Gromyko opened disarmament debate at UN last week (12 July)
        with blistering attack on US for preventing disarmament and
        further relaxation of world tension.

F. Khrushchev (18 July) in typical ebullient remarks to East Germans cited US intervention in Guatemala and failure to hold elections in Vietnam as examples of "what the monopolists mean by democracy--their 'free world' ".

G. Khrushchev on this occasion also sounded note of "proletarian solidarity" with which Moscow is regularly whipping into line erring foreign Communists: "We must strengthen the fraternal solidarity between the Communists and workers' parties that stand on the positions of Marxism-Leninism."